

Explosives Safety Technical Center of Expertise

Background

The Huntsville Center Structural Branch of the Directorate of Engineering serves as the Technical Center of Expertise for explosives safety under the Protective Design-Mandatory Center of Expertise (PD-MCX) assigned to the U.S. Army Engineer District, Omaha.

In 1993, a memorandum of agreement (MOA) between Omaha District and Huntsville Center was signed delineating our responsibilities. This MOA formalized a long-standing informal relationship between the Structural Branch, Civil Structures Division, Directorate of Engineering, and the PD-MCX at Omaha.

Responsibilities

Specific responsibilities of Huntsville Center are:

- Assist in identifying criteria deficiencies related to explosives safety controlled blast resistant facility design;
- Review research and development planning documents by the PD-MCX;
- Review protective design related project brochures, project booklets, design documents, studies, and evaluations prepared by the PD-MCX;
- Assist the PD-MCX with training and other technology transfer initiatives;
- Provide limited technical assistance on explosives safety issues as a "one stop" service for the Army;
- Be the PD-MCX design review agent for explosives safety related project designs originating within the Corps' major subordinate commands.

